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***NEWS RELEASE:***  
***BPA seeks information about vandals who brought down  
transmission line***

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Monday, August 17, 1998**

**PR 51 98**

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**LaPine, Ore.** - The Bonneville Power Administration is still seeking information leading to the arrest and conviction of individuals who damaged the power line that connects BPA's system to California. The damage cost BPA approximately \$500,000.

On Aug. 3, a section of BPA's Celilo-Sylmar Pacific Direct Current transmission line carrying about 1000-kilovolts fell to the ground when vandals shot out 20 insulators. Electrical service to the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power was interrupted briefly until BPA could perform switching operations to bypass the problem. BPA immediately dispatched a transmission line maintenance crew and helicopter to the scene located about 70 miles south of LaPine, Ore.

BPA is encouraging anyone with information related to the vandalism to contact the Oregon State Police's Lake County office at (541) 947-2267. This is a 24-hour recorded line and all information will be kept confidential and used solely in conjunction with an investigation by law enforcement. BPA continues to offer a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to the conviction and arrest of suspects in conjunction with this case.

BPA, a federal power marketing agency, is the Northwest's largest electricity provider. The agency is responsible for selling the power produced by 29 federal dams in the Columbia River Basin. It owns and operates the nation's largest transmission system totaling 15,012 circuit miles.

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